

187th ANNUAL REPORT
1977-78

The Royal
School
for the Blind
Liverpool

**THE ROYAL SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND
LIVERPOOL**

Established 1791 Incorporated 1829

*With the
Secretary's
Compliments*

Administrative Office :
549 SMITHDOWN ROAD
LIVERPOOL L15 5AF
Telephone : 051 - 733 4782

THE ROYAL SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND, LIVERPOOL

Established 1791. Incorporated 1829.

Patron:

Her Majesty the Queen

President:

J. C. Smyth, Esq

Vice-Presidents:

Mrs. V. F. Crosthwaite A. S. Eccles, Esq

Treasurer:

A. A. Hawkins, Esq.

Management Committee:

J. F. Allan, Esq.	A. A. Hawkins, Esq	P. Scott, Esq.	Mrs. B. S. Clarke
J. C. Smyth, Esq.	Mrs. J. H. Marsland	Dr. R. McL. Todd	C. G. Tomkinson, Esq
A. Humphreys, Esq	Mrs. S. Hall	I. R. Petrie, Esq.	

Auditors:

Messrs. Chalmers, Impey & Co., Chartered Accountants

Bankers:

Midland Bank, Rodney Street, Liverpool L1 2TP

Solicitors:

Messrs. Alsop Stevens Batesons & Co.

Consulting Insurance Brokers:

Messrs. Griffiths & Armour

Architect and Surveyor:

D. Wall, Esq., B.Arch., A.R.I.B.A.

Secretary and Bursar:

T. C. Milburn, Esq.

Administrative Offices:

549 Smithdown Road, Liverpool L15 5AF

Telephone: 051-733 4782

Wavertree School:

Church Road North, Liverpool L15 6TQ

Telephone: 051-733 1012

WAVERTREE SCHOOL

Headmaster:

H. S. D. Marks, Esq

Deputy Head:

Miss D. E. Wares

Hon. Physician and Surgeon:

Dr. G. S. Roberts

Hon. Ophthalmic Surgeon:

Mr. D. M. J. Burns, F.R.C.S.

Hon. Dental Surgeon:

Mr. J. Furness, L.D.S.

Hon. Chaplain:

Rev. R. Metcalf

Teaching Staff:

B. Hechle, Esq. (Senior Master)

R. L. Delacruz, Esq	Miss L. Deakin
Miss G. D. Cowin	Miss C. Wilkinson
Miss R. J. Bleasdale	Miss L. E. Barnes
J. R. Dibble, Esq.	J. R. Taylor, Esq., L.R.A.M

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1977-78

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

The Committee of Management have pleasure in presenting their 187th Annual Report.

WAVERTREE SCHOOL

During each academic year, Schools usually have some incidents or highlights which distinguish that period from its predecessors and gives children and staff a way of identifying it in later years. In 1977-78 three widely varied events occurring independently could affirm the future of Wavertree's role in the education of the visually handicapped.

The first and perhaps most important was the growth in numbers and size of the Secondary Unit which ended the year with ten children, all of whom required an individual form of tuition. The continuing need for the type of facilities provided was confirmed by the parents of the children attending, and also by the Local Authorities whose support was considerable. At the end of the year the Unit was expected to receive the formal approval of the Department of Education and Science.

Secondly, after four years of deliberation, the Warnock Committee Report "Special Educational Needs" was published, and is likely to make a great impact on Special Education generally.

The third relates to one pupil whose musical talent has, over the years, given great pleasure to staff and children. Colin Dawson was admitted to the School in January 1971, and very quickly showed a natural talent for music and particularly piano and organ playing. In December of 1977 he passed the Grade VI Music Examination and gained 144 marks from a possible 150. This led to him being declared a Gold Medallist of the Associated Board of the Royal College of Music and he was also awarded the Sheila Mossman Prize. During 1978 he took the Grade VII Examination with

distinction. Colin's Music Tutor, Miss Flora Cann, arranged at varying stages of his progress for him to take part in Music Festivals and Colin developed into a very competent and able performer. At the end of the School year Colin transferred to the Royal National College, Hereford, where his musical talent should continue to develop and play a major part in his future.

Children at Wavertree have always been encouraged to develop natural talents and interests and over the years a considerable number have been very successful in their chosen careers and also in adapting to the world of the adult in business, office, industry and teaching.

Not all children, however, have the talent necessary for outstanding success but have to measure their attainment in a much narrower field. To see a child able to communicate effectively, by speech, braille or type, and for them to have some command of mobility, can give great satisfaction to those responsible for their training and education.

Apart from Colin, other leavers at the end of the School year included:—

Leonard Dewhurst — entering employment and further education.

Stephen Musker — to the Deaf Blind Centre, Pathways, Condover Hall, Shrewsbury.

Andrew Home — to St. Vincent's School for the Blind & Partially Sighted.

Heather Young — to Chorleywood College, London.

Educational outings to the country, the seaside, museums, libraries and other centres of interest were undertaken during a busy year. Camping holidays, Open days for parents and friends, the Taxi Drivers' and other outings to Southport and the Lord Mayor's visit to the Christmas Entertainment all took place as usual.

Apart from these perhaps more entertaining events, the year for the children consisted of acquiring new words, developing new skills, learning to give and forgive — in fact all that makes up the routine life of the School.



ACTIVITIES IN THE
SECONDARY UNIT



WAVERTREE SCHOOL — DEVELOPMENT

The School was in a position to provide accommodation for the Secondary Unit by making available Clifton House, which is adjacent to the Main School Building. It is likely that in the long term some necessary structural and re-equipping works may be necessary to the House, but for the immediate purposes of education and training, Clifton House has proved satisfactory. The advantages of utilising this property were very favourable. It separates the secondary age pupils from the primary, and also provides an area in which the older pupils can have much more freedom to obtain work and living experience.

A project to provide a covered walkway linking the South Wing Classrooms and the McGregor Hall had to be deferred, due to contractual problems, but it is hoped that work will commence on this during 1978-79.

The work of decorating and refurbishing the main building has carried on throughout the year.





ACTIVITIES IN THE
PRIMARY SCHOOL





THE LORD MAYOR
COUNCILLOR RUTH DEAN
AND CHILDREN

*Photograph by courtesy of
Liverpool Daily Post & Echo
Ltd.*

MEMBERSHIP

By the Act of Incorporation, any person donating a sum of £10 at any one time or subscribing £1.05 or more per year to the Charity, becomes a member.

New Members during the year are listed below:—

R. C. Cornforth, Southport.

H.M.S. Revenge.

Messrs. Alsop, Stevens Batesons & Co., Liverpool 2.

Cosmopolitan Travel Services, Manchester.

Upholland Labour Club.

F. R. Whittaker, Woolton.

Barbour Threads Ltd., Liverpool 24.

Barclays Bank Ltd., Liverpool.

Sedgwick Forbes Ltd., London.

OBITUARY

It is with great sadness that we report the death during the year of three of those with whom the School, in its recent history, has been very closely linked. All, in their way, have made a great impact on the School's development and its activities since the end of the Second World War, and will be remembered for their unstinting efforts both for the children and for the often involved matters of administration and management.

Mrs. Doreen Wise died suddenly on March 13th, 1978. She had been a Manager since 1948 and during this period had served as a Member of the Ladies' Committee, which was later amalgamated with the Management Committee. In 1968 she became Vice-President, and on her retirement in 1971 retained this important role in an Honorary capacity until her death. She will be remembered at Wavertree for her unfailing charm and her ability to help solve the many problems of the busy School.

Mr. Edward Keates had been ill for some considerable time, and his death on 17th August, 1978, spared him further distress. He had borne his illness with some fortitude and hospital treatment had become part of his life. He was appointed Superintendent, and was based at the former Hardman Street School, in October 1945. On its closure in 1957, it gave him the opportunity to expand the work at Wavertree and a large improvement programme was implemented under his supervision. On his retirement in July 1969, he retained some contact with the School and kept a keen interest in the changing pattern of education.

Mr. James Pearce died as a result of injuries sustained in an accident on August 12th, 1978. As Chairman of the Taxi Drivers' Blind Children's Outings Committee, of which he was a founder member, he was, with his Committee, responsible for the organisation of the Annual visit to Southport of which 29 had taken place up to the time of his death. His dedication to the interests of the children, his constant search for ways in which to ease the impact of their handicap, and the effort he showed to make each successive outing a memorable occasion will be sadly missed.

LEGACIES

The following Legacies received during the year are
gratefully acknowledged:—

The late	£	p
Miss L. J. Britton, per Messrs. Maxwell, Entwistle & Byrne, Solicitors, Formby	908	13
Jane D. Pott, per Messrs. Berkson & Berkson, Birkenhead	200	00
William S. Peet, per Messrs. Garnett's, Solicitors, Liverpool 2	400	00
Mrs. Winifred Phillips, per Messrs. Banks, Kendall, Taylor & Gorst, Solicitors, Liverpool 2	5,145	33
Mrs. B. M. Cheetham, per Messrs. Peck, Lewis, Belshaw & Watson, Southport	76	20

FORM OF BEQUEST

The following Form of Bequest is recommended to those
who may wish to assist the School by way of Legacies.

I GIVE and bequeath to THE ROYAL SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND, LIVERPOOL,
Administrative Office, 549 Smithdown Road, Liverpool L15 5AF.

the sum of

absolutely and free of duty for the general purposes of the said School AND
SO THAT the receipt of the Treasurer or other proper Officer of the said
School for the time being shall be a good discharge of such legacy to my
Trustees and so that my Trustees shall not be responsible to see to the
application thereof.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ROYAL SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND, LIVERPOOL

1791 The Liverpool School for the Indigent Blind was opened in Commutation Row. This was the first School for the Blind to be established in the British Isles and second only to Paris in the world.

The School was founded by Edward Rushton, who was blinded at sea when 19 years of age and became a bookseller in Paradise Street, Liverpool. He received considerable help from his friend J. Christie, a blind musician who became one of the first teachers in the Institution.

The Reverend Henry Dannett, The Vicar of St. John's, Liverpool, hearing of the scheme from Edward Rushton, became co-founder and played a large part in obtaining the support of the inhabitants of Liverpool and the North West to the venture.



The Seal of the School for the Indigent Blind

He managed the Institution until 1793, when the management was taken over by a Committee drawn from the Members of the Charity.

1800 The School moved to a newly constructed building in Duncan Street, Liverpool, which provided residential accommodation.

1806 His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales, visited the School and became its Patron.
This Royal Patronage has extended up to the present day.

1819 The Chapel of the School for the Blind was built adjoining the School, and was famous for the quality of its music and services.

1829 An Act of Incorporation was passed in Parliament, which regulated the government of the School and the Chapel.

1851 The School moved to new premises in Hardman Street, and the Chapel was taken down and re-erected alongside the School.

1898 The Wavertree School for Blind Children was built for the education of school age children. Hardman Street School remained as a technical and training centre for the adult blind. At the time of the erection of Wavertree School, a donation of £10,000 was made, approximately one third of the cost. The donor was Miss Mary Hornby of Walton, whose generosity to Wavertree School during its early years was extensive.

1928 The Chapel for the Blind was closed and services discontinued. The site on which the Chapel had stood was later used for an extension of the Hardman Street School and provided for the erection of sales departments, workshops, and domestic science training areas.

1945 Under the Education Act, 1944, the Wavertree School became the Junior School for the North West. Secondary School age children were transferred to Henshaw's, Manchester. Hardman Street became the Technical School in the North West for blind adolescent students.

1957 Due to changing social conditions and the availability of open industry to blind trainees, the Technical School at Hardman Street closed. During 1972 the Bronze Doors, which were an important feature of the Hardman Street School, were removed and sited at Wavertree.

1966 By the Liverpool Corporation (General Powers Act) 1966, the institution was renamed The School for the Blind, Liverpool. In July of the same year, Her Majesty the Queen graciously commanded that the title should become The Royal School for the Blind, Liverpool.

1968 The Abbeyholme Preparatory School adjacent to Wavertree School closed and was purchased by the Trustees. It unfortunately required demolition but became the site of the School's adventure playground and mobility area.

1973 An adjoining property, Clifton House, was purchased and converted.

1974/76 A large scheme of improvement comprising classrooms, subject teaching areas and living quarters, was completed.

1978 Approval was given to providing a Secondary Age Unit.

THE ROYAL SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND, LIVERPOOL

Recognised by the Department of Education & Science

Registered in accordance with the National Assistance Act, 1948 and the Charities Act, 1960

INFORMATION FOR DONORS AND SUBSCRIBERS

The Royal School for the Blind, Liverpool, being a Charity, is not liable to Income Tax, but generally all subscribers have to pay tax on the income out of which payment is made for subscriptions. The School is allowed under the Income Tax Acts to recover any tax paid by the Subscriber in relation to a subscription, but only if a seven-year deed of covenant has been signed. Thus £1 per annum for seven years becomes £10.50 after recovery of the tax and £5 per year would become £52.29 at the standard rate of tax.

Copies of covenant, donation and bankers order forms are enclosed with this report, or can be obtained.

OLD PUPILS FUND

This fund enables the Committee to keep in touch with all pupils who, after training, may require advice or financial help.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

Are received by A. A. Hawkins, Esq., Treasurer, Midland Bank Ltd., 32 Rodney Street, Liverpool, the Liverpool Council of Social Service, 14 Castle Street, Liverpool, and the Secretary/Bursar.

Any further information can be obtained from:—

Secretary/Bursar,
Administrative Office,
Royal School for the Blind, Liverpool,
549 Smithdown Road, Liverpool L15 5AF.

The Royal School for the Blind Liverpool

Accounts

For the Year ended 31st March, 1978

Administrative Offices :
549 Smithdown Road
Liverpool L15 5AF
051-733 4782

THE ROYAL SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND, LIVERPOOL

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH, 1978

		1978		1977
	£	£	£	£
GENERAL FUND ASSETS (Note 1)				
Investments (Note 2)		134,368		102,352
Debtors		9,245		8,651
Cash and bank balances		37,983		31,642
		181,596		142,645
Less creditors and provisions		11,082		21,031
		170,514		121,614
ENDOWMENT FUND ASSETS				
Investments (Note 2)		3,893		3,893
Debtors		334		334
		4,227		4,227
OLD PUPILS' FUND ASSETS				
Investments (Note 2)		2,292		2,292
Debtor		757		576
Bank balance		110		55
		3,159		2,923
		£177,900		£128,764
financed by :				
GENERAL FUND (Note 3)		119,981		96,689
REVENUE ACCOUNT (Note 4)		42,258		24,925
BUILDING REPAIRS AND MODERNISATION RESERVE (Note 5)		8,275		—
		170,514		121,614
ENDOWMENT FUND (Note 6)		4,227		4,227
OLD PUPILS' FUND (Note 7)		3,159		2,923
		£177,900		£128,764

President: J. C. SMYTH

Treasurer: A. A. HAWKINS

Secretary & Bursar: T. C. MILBURN

GENERAL CHARITY FUND ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1978

	1978		1977
	£	£	£
INCOME			
Annual subscriptions	129		131
Donations	5,143		2,222
Legacies	6,730		9,200
Proportion of local collection of the Royal National Institute for the Blind	1,858		1,982
Income from investments, gross —			
General fund	10,448		7,715
Endowment funds	322		309
Bank interest	633		1,059
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	25,263		22,618
EXPENDITURE			
Educational equipment	1,181		—
Management expenses	15		15
Pensions	1,201		1,432
Gifts to pupils	392		217
Interest on loan	—		1,758
Miscellaneous	47		211
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	(2,836)		(3,633)
Surplus transferred to General Fund (Note 3)	<hr/>		<hr/>
	£22,427		£18,985
	<hr/>		<hr/>

OLD PUPILS' FUND ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1978

	1978		1977
	£	£	£
INCOME			
Investment Income	196		190
Donation	50		—
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	246		190
DEDUCT: EXPENDITURE			
Grants	(10)		(78)
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Surplus transferred to Old Pupils' Fund (Note 7)	<hr/>		<hr/>
	£236		£112
	<hr/>		<hr/>

EDUCATION ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1978

	1978	1977
	£	£
INCOME		
Augmentation of blind employees' wages	1,846	1,771
Fees from local education authorities	191,994	194,923
Miscellaneous	240	324
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	194,080	197,018
EXPENDITURE		
Salaries and wages:		
Teachers — contributory service	43,458	41,454
non-contributory service	4,924	7,769
Nurses, house parents, children's attendants	15,746	16,406
Housekeepers, cooks, kitchen staff and seamstress	7,404	8,691
Cleaners, stokers, porters, etc.	20,753	17,071
Administrative and clerical staff	9,259	8,815
National insurance contributions	8,437	8,289
Superannuation:		
Teachers	4,073	3,874
Other staff	3,466	3,093
Repairs and maintenance of buildings (Note 5)		
Fire precautions work	—	4,262
Maintenance of grounds (Note 5)		
Fuel, light, water and cleaning materials	14,247	12,511
Replacement and repairs to furniture and fittings	5,530	4,277
Rates	861	823
Text books	842	591
Apparatus and equipment for educational purposes	2,151	1,762
School stationery and materials	1,019	1,257
Drugs, medical requisites, etc.	60	68
Food	9,407	13,650
Staff clothing and uniform	278	302
Motor running expenses	1,783	1,614
Printing, stationery, advertising, postages, etc.	2,512	1,665
Telephones	1,211	1,290
Travelling expenses	774	440
Insurances	2,737	2,760
Medical fees	991	991
Clothing and footwear for pupils	1,260	1,154
Audit and accountancy charges	832	772
Bank interest	17	94
Incidentals	215	154
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	164,247	176,895
Surplus for Year before Transfer to Reserve	29,833	20,123
Transfer to Building Repairs and Modernisation Reserve (Note 5)	(12,500)	—
Surplus Transferred to Revenue Account (Note 4)	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£17,333	£20,123
	<hr/>	<hr/>

THE ROYAL SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND, LIVERPOOL
STATEMENT OF SOURCE and APPLICATION OF FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1978

	1978	1977
	£	£
GENERAL FUND:		
Source of Funds		
Surplus on Education Account	17,333	20,123
Surplus on General Charity Fund Account	22,427	18,985
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	39,760	39,108
Add: Adjustment for items not involving the movement of funds: Increase in balance of Building repairs and modernisation reserve	8,275	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Generated from Operations	48,035	39,108
Sale of property	—	10,833
Sale of investments	1,086	975
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,086	11,808
Purchase of investments	(1,068)	(935)
Capital expenditure	—	(2,777)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	18	8,096
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	48,053	47,204
CHANGES IN WORKING CAPITAL:		
Increase in short-term deposit	31,169	20,000
Increase/(Decrease) in debtors	594	(14,395)
(Increase)/Decrease in: creditors	9,949	283
loan account	—	14,734
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	41,712	20,622
Movement in net liquid funds:		
Increase/(Decrease) in bank balances	6,341	26,582
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	48,053	47,204
	<hr/>	<hr/>
OLD PUPILS' FUND:		
Surplus for the year	236	112
	<hr/>	<hr/>
CHANGES IN WORKING CAPITAL:		
Increase in debtors	181	90
Increase/(Decrease) in bank balances	55	22
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	236	112
	<hr/>	<hr/>

THE ROYAL SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND, LIVERPOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. FIXED ASSETS

The School does not capitalise fixed assets but writes off the cost against the revenue reserves or revenue income in the year of purchase. Fixed assets treated in this manner include:

Land and buildings at Smithdown Road, Menlove Avenue and Wavertree.

Machinery, furniture and equipment.

The School also owns one minibus and two estate cars which were gifts.

2. INVESTMENTS

GENERAL FUND

Narrower range:

	Market value at 31st March, 1970 or subsequent cost or valuation
£8,800.00 12% Treasury Stock 1983	£ 7,962

Wider range:

35,170 units Equities Investment Fund for Charities	32,352
£21,169 Temporary Deposit — Midland Bank Ltd. (one month's notice)	21,169
£30,000 Temporary Deposit — Midland Bank Ltd. (three months' notice)	30,000
	<hr/> 83,521

Special Range:

41,696.53 units Charities Official Investment Fund	42,885
Total General Fund	<hr/> £134,368
(Market value at 31.3.78 — £163,385)	<hr/>

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Special range:

3,754 units Charities Official Investment Fund	£3,893
(Market value at 31.3.78 — £4,840)	<hr/>

OLD PUPILS' FUND

Wider range:

£1,164.00 Canadian Pacific Railway Co. Perp. 4% Debenture Stock	489
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Special range:

1,739 units Charities Official Investment Fund	1,803
(Market value at 31.3.78 — £2,655)	<hr/> £2,292

It is the committee's policy to revalue all investments from time to time. The last revaluation was made on the 31st March, 1970.

		1978	1977
		£	£
3 GENERAL FUND			
Surplus Account —			
Balance at 1st April, 1977	96,689	68,673	
Add: Surplus transferred from General Charity Fund Account	22,427	18,985	
Surplus on sale of property	—	10,833	
Surplus on sale of investments	865	975	
	119,981		99,466
Deduct: New Classrooms —			
Building costs	—	4,019	
Architect fees	—	(452)	
Equipment	—	(284)	
Heating alterations	—	1,412	
Architect fees	—	2,245	
	6,940		
Deduct: capital grants receivable	—	(4,163)	
	—		(2,777)
Balance at 31st March, 1978	£119,981		£96,689

4. REVENUE ACCOUNT

Balance at 1st April, 1977	24,925	4,802
Add: surplus transferred from Education Account	17,333	20,123
Balance at 31st March, 1978	£42,258	£24,925

5. BUILDING REPAIRS AND MODERNISATION RESERVE

Transfer from Education Account (page 3)	12,500	
Deduct: Expenditure in the year —		
Repairs and maintenance of buildings	2,972	
Maintenance of grounds	1,253	
	4,225	
Balance at 31st March, 1978	£8,275	

The Managers have decided that, in order to equalise the annual charge for repairs and modernisation, a reserve for this purpose should be created by annual transfers from Education Account, and that all repairs and modernisation expenditure should be charged against this reserve

	1978	1977
	£	£
6. ENDOWMENT FUND		
The Cort Fund	1,437	1,437
Roger Lyon Jones Trust Fund	719	719
Sir Henry Lucy Fund	719	719
David Malcolmson Fund	719	719
Edward Wadworth Fund	633	633
	£4,227	£4,227

7. OLD PUPILS' FUND	1978	1977
Surplus Account —	£	£
Balance at 1st April, 1977	2,923	2,811
Add : surplus transferred from the		
Old Pupils' Fund Account	236	112
Balance at 31st March, 1978	<u>£3,159</u>	<u>£2,923</u>

8. LIVERPOOL LADIES' ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE AND TRAINING OF GIRLS

Transactions relating to this charity, of which the committee have been appointed trustees, are not included in the accounts.

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE ROYAL SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND, LIVERPOOL:

We have examined the accounts set out on pages 1 to 7. These have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

In our opinion, these accounts give, under the accounting convention stated above, a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Royal School for the Blind Liverpool, at 31st March, 1978, and of its results and source and application of funds for the year ended on that date.

LIVERPOOL

CHALMERS, IMPEY & CO.,
Chartered Accountants

